

### **3.18 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE OF LONG TERM PRODUCTIVITY**

This section considers whether a proposed action is sacrificing a resource value that might benefit the environment in the long term, for some short-term value to the sponsor or the public. For example, cutting a 20-acre forest to create an open space for an annual county fair might be considered elimination of long-term productivity for a short-term use. An impact that has short-term benefits and long-term impacts might fall into the same category.

Overall productivity of the of the Project site and transmission line corridors will remain similar to existing conditions because land uses will not be changed except where access roads, tower foundations, substations, and the O&M building are built. All of these structures have small footprints that are insignificant with regard to the entire Project site, representing 165 acres out of over 8,500 acres, or less than 2%. The same uses and activities for which the land is presently used are possible during the operation and lifetime of the Project.

The use of these 165 acres will result in the generation of renewable energy which will help meet growing demand for energy in the Pacific Northwest without consuming finite resources or discharging pollution to the air, water or land. Overall, the Project's use of the environment has a positive impact on the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.